

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A washer, comprising:

a washing tub;

a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;

a treatment substance adding portion adding a treatment substance for washing to the water in the washing tub; and

a water flow controlling portion controlling flow of water in the washing tub,

wherein at least one of the metal ions and the treatment substance can be added to the water in the washing tub ~~antimicrobial metal ions can be added in to water~~ and attached to a surface of laundry in a predetermined process in a laundry washing session,

wherein the predetermined process includes,

first and second powerful swirl periods and a mild swirl period, or

first and second powerful swirl periods and a still period,

wherein the mild swirl period or still period comes after the first powerful swirl period and the second powerful swirl period comes after the mild swirl period or still period, the second powerful swirl period being shorter than the first powerful swirl period, and

wherein a time of the predetermined process is longer when metal ions are added than when no metal ions are added but the treatment substance is added.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The washer according to claim 1, according to claim 3,
wherein a ratio of the first powerful swirl period and the mild swirl period or a ratio of
the first powerful swirl period and the still period is constant, regardless of a volume of water in
the a-washing tub and/or an amount of laundry.

5. (Currently Amended) The washer according to claim 1, according to claim 3,
wherein a ratio of the first powerful swirl period and the mild swirl period or a ratio of
the first powerful swirl period and the still period varies in accordance with a volume of water in
the a-washing tub and/or an amount of laundry.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The washer according to claim 1, according to claim 6,
wherein the predetermined process is a final rinsing process.

8. (Currently Amended) A washer, comprising:

a washing tub;

a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;

an unbalance detecting portion detecting unbalance in the washing tub; and

an unbalance correcting portion correcting the unbalance in the washing tub,

wherein ~~the antimicrobial metal antimicrobial-metal~~ ions can be added to the water in the washing tub in to water in a predetermined process in a laundry washing session,
a predetermined process in a laundry washing session, and washing session,
 wherein
 the metal ions are added to the water in the washing tub in final rinsing before a squeezing process, and if the unbalance detecting portion detects unbalance in the washing tub during squeezing rotation of the washing tub performed thereafter,
 the unbalance correcting portion executes rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry in which, while water having the metal ions added thereto is supplied, agitation is performed—~~wherein when uneven spreading of laundry is detected during squeezing rotation of a washing tub after addition of metal ions, a countermeasure to be adapted is different from that when uneven spreading of laundry is detected while no metal ions are added.~~

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The washer according to claim 8~~according to claim 9,~~
wherein when ~~in case where~~ the rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry is executed while the water having the metal ions added thereto is supplied~~with fresh water being replenished,~~ an amount of metal ions ~~to be added~~ is less than that added in previous processes.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The washer according to claim 1,
wherein the metal ion adding portion is ~~metal ions are generated by using an ion elution~~
unit that elutes metal ions by applying a voltage between electrodes.

17. (New) A washer, comprising:
a washing tub;
a metal ion adding portion adding antimicrobial metal ions to water in the washing tub;
an unbalance detecting portion detecting unbalance in the washing tub;
an unbalance correcting portion correcting the unbalance in the washing tub; and
an informing portion giving an indication and/or notification,
wherein the metal ions can be added to the water in the washing tub in a predetermined
process in a laundry washing session, and
wherein

the metal ions are added to the water in the washing tub in final rinsing before a squeezing process, and if the unbalance detecting portion detects unbalance in the washing tub during squeezing rotation of the washing tub performed thereafter,

the unbalance correcting portion executes rinsing for correcting uneven spreading of laundry in which, while water having no metal ions added thereto is supplied, agitation is performed, and

in addition the informing portion gives an indication and/or notification that water having no metal ions added thereto is being supplied.